

BLM

Planning

Rule Change

Planning 2.0



What is Planning 2.0?

A BLM initiative to improve our Resource Management Planning Process.

Planning 2.0 consists of two parts:

1. Update to BLM Planning Regulations through a proposed rule change.
2. Update to BLM Land Use Planning Handbook.



Laws and Regulations

The Federal Land Policy Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA) requires that BLM develop Land Use Plans.

The Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) tell us how to develop plans as required by FLMMPA.

The Land Use Planning Handbook provides guidance on implementing the regulations



Why Planning 2.0?

BLM's Resource Management Plans (RMPs) provide the management direction that forms the basis for all approved uses and actions on public land.

The current regulations that govern land use planning haven't been substantially updated in almost 35 years.



Planning 2.0 Goals

Improve BLM's ability to address environmental, economic, and social changes in our planning process.

Provide additional opportunities for involvement by other federal agencies, state and local governments, tribes and the public in the development of our land use plans.

Improve BLM's ability to address landscape – scale resource issues and management approaches to more efficiently and effectively manage public land.



How do the Regulations Address the Planning 2.0 Goals?

▣ Current Planning Steps

- ▣ Notice of Intent
- ▣ Scoping
- ▣ Analysis of the Management Situation
- ▣ Draft RMP
- ▣ Proposed RMP
- ▣ Decision

▣ New Planning Steps

- ▣ **Planning Assessment and Envisioning**
- ▣ Notice of Intent
- ▣ Scoping
- ▣ **Preliminary Purpose and Need Statement and Alternatives**
- ▣ **Preliminary Procedures, Assumptions and Indicators**
- ▣ Draft RMP
- ▣ Proposed RMP
- ▣ Decision

How do the Regulations Address the Planning 2.0 Goals?

The regulations establish a planning assessment prior to the initiation of an RMP.

The assessment involves gathering resource, social, and economic data to establish baseline conditions in the planning area.

Members of the public, tribes, and federal, state, and local governments would be able to submit data and information for BLM's consideration in development of the plan.



How do the Regulations Address the Planning 2.0 Goals?

The planning assessment also involves an Envisioning Process. The intent is to identify relevant public views in the planning area:

What's important?

Why is it important?

Where is it important?



How do the Regulations Address the Planning 2.0 Goals?

The planning rule also establishes several new opportunities for early public involvement during the planning process.

The preliminary purpose and need statement and preliminary alternatives and their rationale will be made available for public review.

The preliminary procedures, assumptions and indicators to be used in the effects analysis would also be made available for public review.



How do the Regulations Address the Planning 2.0 Goals?

By considering public input early in the process we hope it will help inform the development of the RMP and supporting NEPA analysis, and the need to restart, or supplement a planning process, can be avoided or minimized.



How do the Regulations Address the Planning 2.0 Goals?

Comment Period Existing Regulations	Comment Period Proposed Regulations	Comment Period Final Regulations
Draft RMP - 90 days	Draft RMP - 60 days	Draft RMP -100 days
Draft RMP Amendment with an EIS - 90 days	Draft RMP Amendment with an EIS – 45 days	Draft RMP Amendment with an EIS – 60 days

How do the Regulations Address the Planning 2.0 Goals?

The new regulations would provide BLM the flexibility to plan across traditional administrative boundaries.

This has been referred to as a “landscape approach.”



What does Landscape –Scale Planning Look Like?

The planning area should be defined by management concerns, where practical.

Resource values, the use of those resources, environmental and ecological conditions, and social and economic concerns should be considered.

Landscape scale planning should encourage cross-boundary coordination.



What does Landscape –Scale Planning Look Like?

Landscape scale planning should try to edge match decisions if possible.

It should consider multiple landscapes and multiple scales of management.



What does this mean for Arizona?

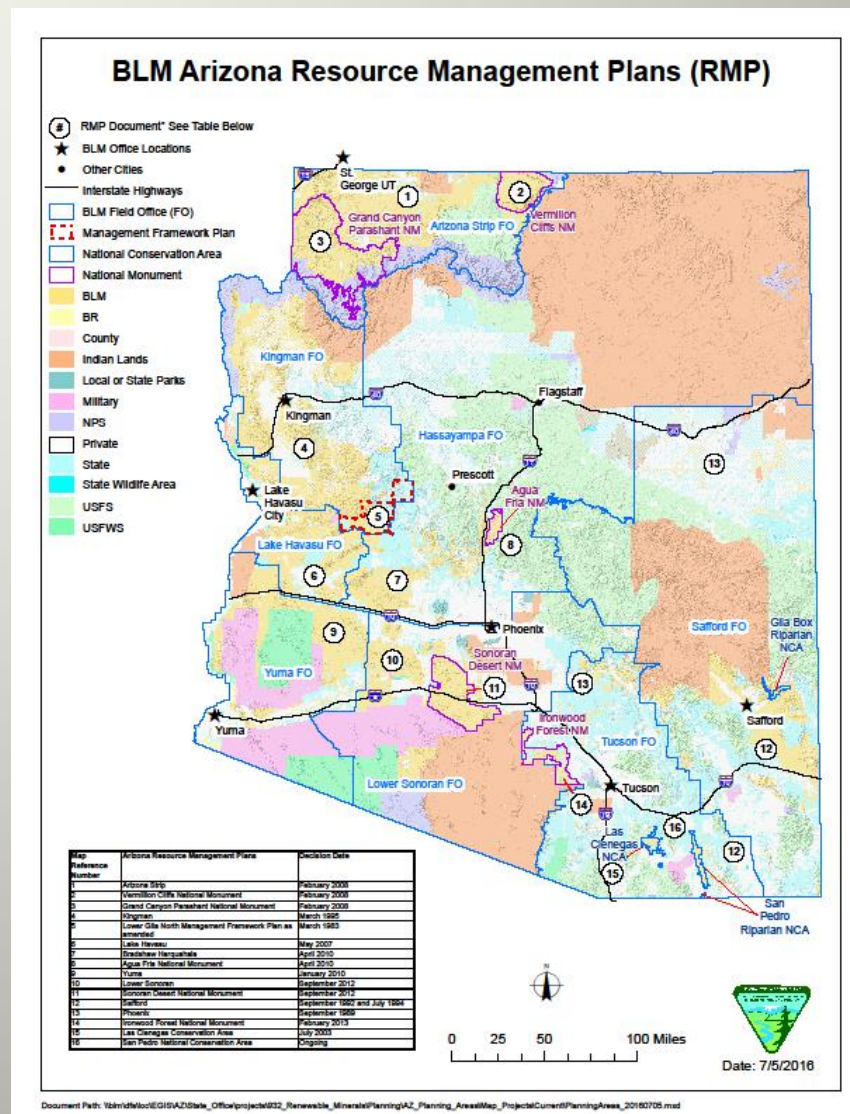
Planning 2.0 does not change the existing RMP boundaries.

The agency's existing plans will remain in effect.

When a revision or plan amendment is needed, the new regulations would come into play.



What Does This Mean for Arizona?



Next Steps for Planning 2.0

The Final Rule was developed using input received on the Proposed Rule.

It was posted on BLM's Website on December 1 and it's anticipated to be published in the Federal Register before January 2017. It will go into effect 30 days after publication in the Federal Register.

BLM Land Use Planning Handbook changes will be made based on Final Rule. Hope to have available in early summer 2017.



Additional Information

Information on the Final rule is available at the following website www.blm.gov/plan2

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